

**8738 to 8745—Continued.**

product is a cheap one, the heavy yields make it a very profitable sort. It ripens about September or October. It sells in Bagdad (dry), I am told, for \$1.40 to \$2 per 210 pounds." (*Fairchild.*) (No. 871.)

**8744.**

*Bayhan.* "This date is reported to ripen in July and yield only fairly good fruits. It is the earliest ripening of the Bagdad dates, I am told, and deserves a place in the gardens for this reason. This variety is red before ripening but turns black when mature. It is not a very sweet sort, and not very highly thought of by the Bagdadians. It is rarely cultivated except outside of Bagdad. Its early ripening qualities are what make it worthy of trial in America. It is probable that this sort will not ripen so early in America because the amount of heat is probably considerably less." (*Fairchild.*) (No. 872.)

**8745.**

*Sukeri.* "A very large variety of date, said by Mr. Raphael Casparkan to be 2 inches or more in length, and when fresh, to be of good quality. Mr. Casparkan donated these to the Government, and the determinations are his, for I could not distinguish the different varieties which he selected. Worthy of trial in Arizona on account of its large size." (*Fairchild.*) (No. 873.)

**8746 to 8752. PHOENIX DACTYLIFERA.****Date palm.**

From Bassorah, Arabia. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (Nos. 895 to 901, February 25, 1902), June 7, 1902.

**8746.**

*Berhi.* "A variety of date which, though never shipped to the American market, is said by every one in this region to be unquestionably the best date in this part of the Persian Gulf, inferior only to the *Khalasa* date of Hassa. It ripens, as do most all these Shat-el-Arab dates, in the month of September, and it is therefore likely to prove very valuable because of its superior quality and its early ripening character. It ripens in September in Bassorah, where the temperature goes to 117° F. in the shade. It is a sticky date, but nevertheless a variety with a very fine flavor, and grows well on adobe alluvial deposits. It is watered by canal irrigation as often during the year as the tide rises, viz, twice a day. I have tasted this *Berhi*, and it is superior to the *Halawi*, the principal export sort, and also to the *Taberzal*. The seed is very small." (*Fairchild.*) (No. 895.)

**8747.**

*Ipweis* or *Herezi.* "One of the best dates of the Persian Gulf. A delicate, light-colored date of medium size, with medium-sized stone. It ripens in Bassorah in September. It is very little known, even at Bassorah. Grown, as are all of the dates on the Shat-el-Arab River, in stiff clay, almost adobe soil, in raised areas surrounded by canals, which are flooded twice a day by water from the river as it is backed up by the tides, the variety is a sticky sort, but deserves the serious attention of experimenters with date palms, on account of its superior flavor and excellent color. The summer temperature of Bassorah rises to 117° and sometimes to 120° F. in the shade. In winter it drops to below 50°. The soil where the date is grown is distinctly saline. This date has not been shipped to American markets, but would be a good selling date, and for this reason it is well worth planting in southern California (Colorado Desert) and Arizona." (*Fairchild.*) (No. 896.)

**8748.**

*Sayer* or *Ustaamran.* "A variety of date darker in color than the *Halawi*, but of fair flavor. A standard sort in New York. It is said to do best on a light sandy soil, and to require less water than No. 8747. *Sayer* is a word also used to indicate a mixed lot of dates, but these trees are of a distinct long fruited dark sort. The trees are taller than those of the variety *Halawi*, and not so uniformly straight. This sort is most likely to succeed on sandy soils, or, at least, to do better on sandy than on ordinary adobe soil. It is inferior in quality to *Halawi* and *Khadrawi*, but, nevertheless, a good market date. It is grown here very extensively." (*Fairchild.*) (No. 897.)